

MINUTES of Western North Carolina Association, United Church of Christ

October 3, 2015

Call to Order and Preliminary Business

The Annual Meeting of the Western North Carolina Association was held at Abernethy Laurels in Newton, NC, October 3, 2015. The meeting convened at 9:40 AM. Elizabeth Schiemann, President of the Association, presided.

Lee Syria, CEO of United Church Homes and Services, persons brought greetings to the Annual Meeting, noting that the \$3.7 million capital campaign goal for UCHS is within \$116,000 of being met. Ms. Syria also introduced the new Director of Spiritual Life at Abernethy Laurels, Rev. Susan Roddey.

President Elizabeth Schiemann welcomed staff and guests

- Edward Davis, Conference Minister, Southern Conference
- Eddie Weathers, ENCA Minister for Church Affairs
- Belinda Sledge, Southern Conference Accountant
- Brenda James, Southern Conference President
- Jerry Rhyne, WNCA Minister for Church Affairs
- Heather Burns, WNCA Administrative Assistant
- Abi Kennett, WNCA Intern
- Judy Conrad, Musician
- Institutional representatives

Rev. Dr. Edward Davis, Conference Minister, brought greetings from the Southern Conference and challenged the Western NC Association to engage in the mission priorities of the conference. He also honored the memory of Rev. Banks Shepherd, who passed away this week.

Rev. Jerry Rhyne introduced Rev. Tamara Franks, speaker/presenter for the day. Donald Craver read Scripture from 1 Corinthians 12. Tamara led us in a discussion of how beliefs fuel behaviors, that impact results. This is our "culture." Led by Tamara, the Association delegates and guests reflected on the culture of the Association and gave feedback.

Reports and Business

Following lunch, Elizabeth Schiemann, President, convened the business session and declared a quorum.

The President appointed Rev. Warren Casiday as parliamentarian.

It was MSA (moved, seconded, and approved) to adopt the Agenda.

It was MSA to adopt the Standing Rules.

Brenda James, Conference President, brought greetings including prayer concerns and thanks to those who assisted with the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Southern Conference.

Rev. Dr. Ken Clapp brought greetings from Catawba College and from Black Lake Retreat Center, noting the growing interest in spiritual matters at the college.

Rev. Curly Stumb brought greetings from Johns River Valley Camp, and thanked all those who have supported the camp.

Rev. Jerry Rhyne gave highlights from his report as Minister for Church Affairs (Appendix A) and thanked Elizabeth Schiemann for her President's report (Appendix B).

Rev. Bob Thompson, Secretary, presented the 2014 minutes. It was MSA to approve the minutes as distributed.

Doug Sink, Treasurer presented the proposed spending plan for the fiscal year 2016. It was MSA to approve the spending plan (Appendix C).

It was MSA to raise the recommended dues for the WNCA to \$2.00 per member of the congregation.

Rev. June Grubb, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of nominees (Appendix D). Rev. Grubb added one additional nominee –

- Treasurer, Mr. Doug Sink (eligible for a full term after completing a partial term)

It was MSA to approve the nominees.

Rev. Mark Burns, Chair of the Church and Ministry Commission, presented the commission's report (Appendix E). It was MSA to accept the report.

Elizabeth Schiemann, President, presented changes to the WNCA Constitution and Bylaws recommended by the Board of Directors. It was MSA first to approve the name changes as recommended. It was separately MSA to approve the substantive changes (Appendix F). The primary change was elimination of four standing committees which have not been active for many years.

The spring meeting for learning and fellowship will be March 5, 2016, and the 2016 Annual Meeting will be October 1, 2016.

Rev. Jerry Rhyne and Rev. Dr. Edward Davis commissioned the newly elected officers, members of the Board of Directors, and members of the Committee on Ministry.

The meeting closed with worship and Holy Communion led by Rev. Tamara Franks and Rev. Jerry Rhyne. The offering was designated to support the mission priorities of the Southern Conference.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Elizabeth Schiemann at 2:45 PM with a benediction.

Minutes recorded by:

Robert M. Thompson, Secretary
Western North Carolina Association

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